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August 1, 2000

Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service,
CC Docket No. 96-45;
Petition for Designation as an Eligible
Telecommunications Carrier in the State of Wyoming,
DA 99-2511**

Dear Ms. Salas:

On behalf of Western Wireless Corp. ("Western Wireless"), Gene DeJordy, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs, Jim Blundell, Director, External Affairs, and Michele Farquhar and I, counsel for Western Wireless, made an *ex parte* presentation yesterday afternoon regarding the proceedings referred to above to Katherine Schroder, Deputy Chief, Accounting Policy Division, Common Carrier Bureau; Jack Zinman, Counsel to the Chief, Common Carrier Bureau; and Gene Fullano, Katie King, Bob Loube, and Richard Smith of the Accounting Policy Division staff. We handed out the attached materials during the presentation, and addressed Western Wireless' experiences in proceedings before state commissions and its positions in those proceedings regarding the public interest standard for designating additional carriers in rural telephone company areas.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,



David L. Sieradzki
Counsel for Western Wireless Corp.

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Enclosures

cc: Katherine Schroder
Jack Zinman
Gene Fullano
Bob Loube
Katie King
Richard Smith

**Status of ETC Petitions of Wireless, Cable, and Selected CLECs
Granted Or Denied By State Commissions**

State	Company	Status
Arkansas	Sprint PCS	Granted
California	Cox Cable	Granted
California	Sprint PCS	Granted
California	Western Wireless	Granted (non-rural areas)
Kansas	Sprint PCS	Granted (non-rural telco areas only)
Kansas	Western Wireless	Granted (non-rural telco areas only)
Maryland	MCI	Granted
Minnesota	Western Wireless	Granted (rural/non-rural telco areas)
New York	RCN	Granted
New York	Time Warner	Granted
New York	Metropolitan Communications	Granted
North Dakota	Western Wireless	Granted (non-rural telco areas only); Denied (rural telco areas)
Puerto Rico	Centennial Cellular	Granted
South Dakota	Western Wireless	Denied (FCC preemption requested)
Utah	Western Wireless	Granted (non-rural telco areas only); Denied (rural telco areas)
Washington	U.S. Cellular	Granted (rural/non-rural telco areas)
Wisconsin	Wausau Cellular	Granted
Wyoming	Western Wireless	Dismissed on jurisdictional grounds

**Competitive Carriers' Pending Petitions
for Designation by State Commissions**

State	Company	Status
Colorado	Western Wireless	Pending (filed 8/98; refiled 3/2/00)
Iowa	Western Wireless	Pending (filed 4/28/00)
Kansas	Western Wireless	Rural telco areas pending (filed 8/98)
Nebraska	Western Wireless	Pending (filed 8/98)
Nevada	Western Wireless	Pending (filed 8/98; refiled 5/00)
New Mexico	Western Wireless	Pending (filed 8/98)
New York	MCI	Pending (filed 4/99)
Oklahoma	Western Wireless	Pending (filed 8/98)
Texas	Western Wireless	Pending (filed 8/98)